

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/675,099

Examiner

Angel R. Estrada

Applicant(s)

BRANDT ET AL.

Art Unit

2831

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the Amendment filed on August 11, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 14-41.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

a) In claim 40 line , change delete "if" after "wherein".

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 14-41 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The primary reasons for the indication of the allowability of claims 14-41 are:

Regarding claims 14-21, the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest in combination with the other claimed limitation a rail system comprising first and second power conductors supported lengthwise on the support via an elongate support edge at least partially embedded in the insulative support and configured to conduct electrical power, and first and second data conductors supported lengthwise on the support via an elongate support edge at least partially embedded in the insulative support, wherein the data conductors are disposed between the power conductors and configured to transmit data signals.

Regarding claims 22-31, the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest in combination with the other claimed limitation a rail system wherein the first and second set of power conductors and the first and second data conductors are generally mechanically inflexible.

Regarding claims 32-37, the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest in combination with the other claimed limitation an open rail system comprising a capacitor coupled across the first set of power conductors.

Regarding claims 38-41, the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest in combination with the other claimed limitation a rail system wherein each the rail data conductors and the rail power conductor is mechanically engageable with a plurality of connectors at a plurality of locations along the length of the rail, each connector being connected to a different electrical component.

These limitations are found in claims 14-41, and are neither disclosed nor taught by the prior art of record, alone or in combination.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed on August 11, 2005 have been fully considered are not persuasive.

In response to the applicants' argument, the Examiner agrees that neither Davis et al (US 5,295,843) nor the cited prior art teach, disclose, or suggest a rail system comprising first and second power conductors supported lengthwise on the support via an elongate support edge at least partially embedded in the insulative support and configured to conduct electrical power and first and second data conductors supported lengthwise on the support via an elongate support edge at least partially embedded in the insulative support, wherein the data conductors are disposed between the power conductors and configured to transmit data signal.

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Angel R. Estrada at telephone number (571) 272-1973. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (8:30 -5:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dean Reichard can be reached on (571) 272-2800 Ext: 31. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

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published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

October 26 2005

Angel R. Estrada 10/26/05
Angel R. Estrada
Patent Examiner
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